



Family Readiness Group Newsletter – July 2004

Bravo Company “Bushmasters”

Message from Bushmaster 6

Family and Friends of Bravo Company,

The month of July has been filled with tasks of the quickly approaching redeployment. Even though the company is still actively involved in guarding the main supply route, the soldiers spend much of their time packing duffle bags, washing vehicles and cleaning personal equipment in order to prepare for the eventual out-load. There is an over-arching mood of excitement felt by the soldiers knowing that in approximately 45 days they will be back on American soil and with their loved ones. Additionally, 95% of the company is on the first flight back to the US so we will be back earlier than most.

Upon return back to Fort Riley, the soldiers of Bravo Company will be granted a 48 hour pass before returning back to work. Following the pass, each soldier will be required to attend 5 days of mandatory re-integration classes during a week of ½ day schedule. Once the classes are complete, each soldier will be given the opportunity to take block leave (up to 30 days) in order to relax from a long deployment. Once back from leave, the company training calendar will consist of re-establishing the company area, cleaning equipment, and small individual training tasks. Bottom line: The soldiers will not be going out to the field for a while.

This month the Bushmasters promoted 8 soldiers. I would like to congratulate all of them on a job well done, especially the three SGTs for joining the ranks of the NCO Corps. All three are excellent soldiers and their promotion is well deserved.

I know that most of the wives, if not all, are aware of the battalion formal that will occur on 19 November. Currently, I am polling the married soldiers and submitting numbers for attendance. I have already told your husbands, “If your wives are going, then you are going, no exceptions.” I have also been told that due to the money raised by the FRGs (you guys) back at Riley, this formal will be one to remember. Thanks for all of your hard work and dedication.

In closing, I would like to say that with only 6 weeks left in Iraq it has been an honor to have served with your husbands and sons in combat during the last four months. They have performed remarkably and are truly going home heroes. Most of them will not admit, or talk about, the actions and events that they have witnessed while in country. I will tell you that ALL of them have been part of missions and operations that have inevitably saved other soldiers' lives. It is no doubt that the soldiers of Bushmaster Company are the best there are.

Bushmaster 6